

IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 32 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 32 in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

V. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102/§ 103

Claims 43-45 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,446,224 to Chang et al. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,249,812 to Cromer et al. Claims 50 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,032,001 to Miyawaki. Claims 2, 14, 17, 22, 24, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,000,046 to Passmore in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,357,611 to Kaneshima. Claims 16, 18, 21, 23 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Passmore, in view of Kaneshima, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,666,481 to Lewis. Claims 19 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Passmore, in view of Kaneshima, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,983,364 to Bortcosh et al. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Passmore, in view of Kaneshima, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,748,880 to Ito et al. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Passmore, in view of Kaneshima, and further in view of the Examiner's statement of ordinary skill in the art. Claims 46 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Chang et al., in view of the Examiner's statement of ordinary skill in the art. Claim 52 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Miyawaki, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,715,496 to Sawada.

Applicants have cancelled claim 52 and amended claims 25, 43, and 49 to contain the allowable subject matter as identified by the Examiner. Further, claims 50 and 51 have been amended to depend from claim 49, claims 44-48 depend from claim 43 and claims 2, 14, 16-24, 27, 28, and 30 depend on claim 25. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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